

Tourists inflow to Gujarat

1843. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tourists visited Gujarat during 1998-1999 and till date;
- (b) whether the number of tourists increased or decreased;
- (c) in case of the number of tourists have decreased, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the total income from tourists visited from the above period;
- (e) the amount of that utilised on development of tourism; and
- (f) the balance in hand?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANT KUMAR): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of Gujarat, total number of tourists who visited Gujarat during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and till date are as follows:—

Year	Total Number of Tourists visited Gujarat
1998-99	63,02,431
1999-2000	1,15,89,424
2000-2001	23,27,413
(From April, 2000 to June 2000 only)	

(b) There has been an increase of number of tourist visiting Gujarat during the year 1999-2000 as compared to the year 1998-1999.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Estimate of foreign exchange earnings from tourism are not maintained State-wise.

(e) and (f) Development of tourism in any State is undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central financial assistance for the projects/ schemes identified every year in consultation with them. During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs.327.64 lakhs for 19 projects have been sanctioned for the development of tourism in the State of Gujarat.